



STATE OF DELAWARE  
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**NEWS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Make Sure Your Child Is Riding Safe Before You Hit the Roads** **This Holiday Season**

*Free car seat inspections available year round*

**Dover** – It's time to visit family and friends this holiday season and do some shopping along the way. Have you taken the time to ensure your kids are buckled up correctly? It's not always easy to know how to correctly secure children in all types of vehicles. Three out of 4 parents in Delaware do not install their child's car seat properly. Children using incorrectly installed car seats face dramatically increased rates of death and injury in the event of a crash.

The Office of Highway Safety want to remind parents, guardians, and anyone who might be transporting children this holiday season to get their car seats checked for proper installation and fit for free at any one of the OHS child passenger Fitting Stations today. Car seat check locations are conveniently located statewide and staffed by certified child passenger safety technicians. Not only will the technician inspect the car seat for correct installation, but will also show you how to properly position your child in the seat.

OHS child passenger Fitting Stations are open year round Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays for car seat checks. Call for times and to make an appointment at any one of the locations below;

Wilmington DMV	Dover DMV	DSP Troop 7-Lewes
2230 Hessler Blvd	303 Transportation Cir.	18006 Coastal Hwy
302.434.3234	302.744.2749	302.853.1014

There are 4 steps for child safety as they grow: rear facing, forward facing, booster seat, and seat belt. Delaware law sets a minimum standard and gives parents flexibility to meet the best practice recommendations set by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The law simply requires a child to be "properly secured according to manufacturer's instructions" in a child safety seat "that is appropriate for the child's

age/weight and height” up to age 8 or 65 lbs in weight, whichever comes first. Children ages 8 (or 65 lbs) to age 16 must be secured in a seat belt.

While the AAP recommendations include keeping children rear-facing until the age of 2, NHTSA, who developed the training curriculum for child passenger safety technicians, recommends that parents focus more attention on the manufactures weight and height limits on the seats and use age as a broad guide for rear facing vs. forward facing.

To learn more about the 4 steps for child safety and to find the times and dates of car seat check locations visit OHS website at <http://www.ohs.delaware.gov/information/cps.shtml> or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/DEHighwaySafe](http://www.twitter.com/DEHighwaySafe) or ‘Like’ us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ArriveAliveDE](http://www.facebook.com/ArriveAliveDE).

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